Joint Venture by Indian Iron and Steel Company

1929. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to have joint venture with Swaraj Paul in managing Indian Iron and Steel Company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has engaged SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBI-CAP) as professional consultants to fully explore and advise on the possibilities of private participation in Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO). SBI-CAP is now in touch with the possible private investors, both Indian/Non-Resident Indian and overseas. The London-based Caparo Group Limited (with which Shri Swaraj Paul, an Non-Resident Indian, is associated), which has evinced interest in IISCO, is one such possible participant SAIL is expected to receive the SBI-CAP report during this month (March, 1992); Government will be taking an appropriate view in this regard after examining the report.

[*Translation*]

Pilferage of Electricity

1930. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Co-operative Housing Societies located in Mayur Vihar and Patpargunj against whom the cases of pilferage of electricity came to light and the number of such societies against whom fines have been imposed and the number of societies from whom amount of fine could not be recovered so far by the Delhi electric Supply Undertaking;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the pilferage of electricity in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). 16 cases fo theft of electricity by the Co-operative Group Housing societies located in Mayur Vihar and Patparganj areas were detected during the raids conducted by DESU in August/September, 1991. Necessary assessment bills for consumption of electricity/misuse charges have already been issued in 13 cases. Similar action in respect of the remaining three Societies and to effect the requisite recoveries is in progress. DESU has intensified its drive against the theft of power and periodic raids are conducted to check this problem. Theft of power is a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

[*English*]

Telecast of Film "The Killing Fields"

1931. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
DR. R. MALLU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a film entitled "The Killing Fields" on the effect of increasing use of pesticides on hum health and ecology made by PTI-TV was slated to be telecast in September-October, 1991

(b) if so, why the film was not telecast; and